

When it comes to the characters of the story, the book falls short. To start, V is never shown as the "super hero" that everyone loves to see. His mental stability is very questionable

throughout the book, and it is never clear if he is truly good or bad. This makes it hard to care about the character. When watching the movie, it is easy to see V as a hero. He is a freedom fighter who serves the common man and fights the corrupted government. Even more, he is a gentleman. A story is no good when there is no one to cheer for, and the film supplies that someone. ✓

Similar to V, the character of Eric Finch is improved through the big screen. In the graphic novel, Finch is driven crazy by the search for V. He is so pressured into finding the terrorist that he destroys himself in the process and turns into a madman. The movie however, displays Finch as a sympathetic man interested in more than just the head of V. After poking around in old government files he starts to question the validity of the government. This type of reasoning is never present in the book. In addition, he is eventually convinced by Evey that the corrupt government is the greater evil and allows the destruction of Parliament. This change in character is what makes Finch superior in the film. It shows he has reasoning and sympathy like a real man should. ✓

Another character that was better in the movie is Evey. The character of Evey Hammond is extremely pathetic in the book. She is only sixteen, has no confidence, ^{and} is fearful of everything, ^{she} is naïve, ^X and ~~she~~ is even mildly stupid at some points. Conversely, in the movie Evey is older, more sophisticated, and confident. She has a decent job and lives her own life. It is hard to remain interested in a character that has the maturity of a little girl. Furthermore, the idea of a sixteen-year-old girl assuming the position of a masked terrorist is not realistic. ^{- true -} A girl that young would not be physically or mentally capable of such a feat. The film gives us a more sophisticated and mature Evey Hammond that is more likely to comprehend V's logic and carryout his plans. ✓

plus Natalie Portman!

Besides the differences in individual characters, there are multiple distinctions between the characters as a whole. There is no true depth to the majority of the characters in the graphic novel. There is a list a mile long of secondary characters that contribute to nothing but more confusion to the plot. Having to keep track of the core characters and on top of that their wives, lovers, and neighbors gets to be overwhelming. Deleting these distractions from the movie plot keeps the story moving at a faster pace, and gives more power to the main characters. ✓

Aiding in the brilliance of the movie characters is the choices made for the cast. Although his face is never revealed, Hugo Weaving ^{True!} does an excellent job as V. He uses body language and perfect emphasis in his speaking to make up for the absence of facial expressions. Another is Tim Pigott-Smith, seen as Peter Creedy, who has the perfect physical appearance to fit his role: an evil old man. Next on the list is John Hurt. Hurt plays the role of Adam Sutler, the fascist leader of England. He is portrayed in the movie on a giant wall-sized TV as an angry firecracker of a dictator. ^{uh huh!} Lastly, is the lovely Natalie Portman as Evey Hammond. Portman combines her good looks and excellent acting ability to produce a perfect Evey. ✓ Even during the dramatic scene where her hair is shaved off she is able to look good and give a great performance. There is an assortment of talented actors that make this movie all the better. ^{I agree!}